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Feb. 5, 2014

North Hollywood Man Found Guilty of Killing Sister

A jury has found a 24-year-old man guilty of stabbing his sister to death, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Deputy District Attorney Matthew Vodnoy said Mario Alejandro Martínez of North Hollywood was found guilty yesterday of first-degree murder in case LAO75140.

The jury also found true a special allegation that he used a knife.

Sentencing for Martínez is scheduled on March 27 in Department R of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Van Nuys Branch. He will be facing 26 years to life in state prison.

On Sep. 2, 2013, Raquel Martínez went to her mother's apartment, where the defendant also lived, to bring some milk, the prosecutor said. According to court testimony, Martínez, angry at his sister because of a fight earlier in the year, grabbed a knife from the kitchen and chased her into the street.

Their mother attempted to intervene but could not stop the defendant from stabbing his sister to death, according to witness testimony. Martínez tried to escape but two good Samaritans who saw the attack followed him and directed police to his location, the prosecutor said.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, North Hollywood Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.